Application No. 09/749,772 Reply to Office Action of July 13, 2004 Docket No. 8046-1008

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that claims 22-24 have been allowed.

Applicants also acknowledge with appreciation that claims 2-9, 13-19, 25-28 and 30-33 are directed to allowable subject matter.

In reliance thereupon, allowable claims 2, 7, 8, 13, 17, 18 and 19 have been amended to be in independent form including the recitations of the base claim from which these claims previously depended. Accordingly, allowance of these claims is solicited.

Claims 1 and 12 have been canceled. The claims previously depending from either claims 1 or 12 have been amended to depend from another claim.

In view of the above, applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

Please charge the fee of \$440 for the five extra independent claims added herewith to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

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overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R.§1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

Roland E. Long, Jr., Reg. No. 41,949 745 South 23rd Street

Arlington, VA 22202

Telephone (703) 521-2297

Telefax (703) 685-0573

(703) 979-4709

REL/lrs